

# Time taken for infected and uninfected flat-backed mud crabs to react to the presence of prey in North Inlet Estuary, Georgetown, SC during 2012 (Variation in Metabolic Processes project)

**Website:** <https://www.bco-dmo.org/dataset/638726>

**Data Type:** experimental

**Version:** 2016-02-16

## Project

» [Linking Variation in Metabolic Processes as a Key to Prediction](#) (Variation in Metabolic Processes)

Contributors	Affiliation	Role
<a href="#">Griffen, Blaine D.</a>	University of South Carolina	Principal Investigator
<a href="#">Belgrad, Benjamin A.</a>	University of South Carolina	Student
<a href="#">Copley, Nancy</a>	Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution (WHOI BCO-DMO)	BCO-DMO Data Manager

## Table of Contents

- [Dataset Description](#)
  - [Methods & Sampling](#)
  - [Data Processing Description](#)
- [Data Files](#)
- [Parameters](#)
- [Instruments](#)
- [Deployments](#)
- [Project Information](#)
- [Funding](#)

## Dataset Description

Respiration rates of flat-backed mud crab, *Eurypanopeus depressus*, infected with the invasive rhizocephalan barnacle, *Loxothylacus panopaei*.

### Related Reference:

Belgrad, B. and B. Griffen. 2015. Rhizocephalan infection modifies host food consumption by reducing host activity levels. *Journal of Experimental Marine Biology and Ecology*. 466: 70-75.

### Related Datasets:

[E. depressus digestion time](#)

[E. depressus metabolism](#)

## Methods & Sampling

*Eurypanopeus depressus* were collected by hand from oyster reefs within the North Inlet Estuary (33°20'N, 79°10'W, Georgetown, South Carolina) 24 hours prior to experimentation. All oyster reefs were within 5 km of each other and no oyster reef was closer than 200 m to another sampled reef. Infected crabs were identified by the presence of parasite externa which signifies the parasite was mature. We only used infected crabs with a single mature externa to reduce any variation produced by multiple infections. Our sampling methods could not discern whether crabs were infected with the immature, internal phase of the parasite, so it is possible that some crabs categorized as "not infected" did have infections. We utilized male and female crabs in both infected and uninfected treatments because the effects of parasitic castration made distinguishing the sex of infected crabs difficult. Scorched mussels, *Brachidontes exustus*, are an important prey item of *E. depressus* and were collected from the same reefs from which we sampled crabs. Crab carapace width and mussel length were measured to the nearest 0.5 mm using a Vernier caliper while weight was measured to the

nearest 0.01 g with a top loading balance AEP-2500G.

Crabs were starved 24 hours prior to experimentation to standardize hunger levels and were monitored for 24 hours after the experiment to ensure none underwent ecdysis or extruded eggs. Crabs were placed in individual cylindrical glass containers (height 5 cm, radius 3 cm) and allowed to acclimate for five minutes. Following the acclimation period we introduced a single mussel into each container and recorded the amount of time taken for the crab begin manipulating the mussel (min). To reduce variations in reaction time brought about by differences in the crab:mussel size ratio we matched larger crabs to larger mussels (crab carapace width = 8 - 14 mm; mussel shell length = 3.5 - 6 mm). Five infected and uninfected crabs per trial were observed at night under red light for a maximum of six hours, with seven trials conducted over seven consecutive days ( $n = 35$ ). Crabs were monitored continuously for the first hour and every 5 min thereafter. Recorded time is the minute an individual was actually observed reacting after the start of the experiment.

## Data Processing Description

We pooled the data as reaction times did not differ for either infected or uninfected crabs across trials (two one-way ANOVAs,  $p > 0.05$ ). Some of the crabs did not react to the presence of mussels by the conclusion of the experiment, so we conducted Cox's proportional hazards analysis to compare the overall reaction time of infected and uninfected crabs, allowing us to right censor the data.

Statistical software: R, version 3.0.1 (R Development Core Team, Auckland, New Zealand; R Package *survival* v. 2.37-7)

### BCO-DMO Processing:

- added conventional header with dataset name, PI name, version date, reference information
- renamed parameters to BCO-DMO standard
- replaced blank cells with nd

[ [table of contents](#) | [back to top](#) ]

---

## Data Files

File
<b>Edepressus_rxn.csv</b> (Comma Separated Values (.csv), 4.61 KB) MD5:77c1ab64545746d6a7b71f473427efe5
Primary data file for dataset ID 638726

[ [table of contents](#) | [back to top](#) ]

---

## Parameters

Parameter	Description	Units
parasite_infection	parasite infection: 0=no; 1=yes	unitless
trial	trial number	unitless
time	time (GMT)	HHMM
day	day of month	1-31
month	month	unitless
year	year	yyyy
time_zone_diff	local time zone difference	hours
lat	latitude; north is positive	decimal degrees
lon	longitude; east is positive	decimal degrees
crab_len	crab length	millimeters
crab_wgt	crab weight	grams
gender	gender: F=female; M=Male	unitless
reaction_time	reaction time	minutes
reacted_to_mussel_by_end_of_trial	reacted to mussel by end of trial: 0=no; 1=yes	unitless
comment	comments	unitless

[ [table of contents](#) | [back to top](#) ]

## Instruments

<b>Dataset-specific Instrument Name</b>	
<b>Generic Instrument Name</b>	scale or balance
<b>Generic Instrument Description</b>	Devices that determine the mass or weight of a sample.

## Deployments

### Griffen\_lab

<b>Website</b>	<a href="https://www.bco-dmo.org/deployment/638572">https://www.bco-dmo.org/deployment/638572</a>
<b>Platform</b>	Univ_S_Carolina
<b>Start Date</b>	2012-01-01
<b>End Date</b>	2016-12-31

## Project Information

### Linking Variation in Metabolic Processes as a Key to Prediction (Variation in Metabolic Processes)

#### *Description from NSF award abstract:*

A major goal of biological and ecological sciences is to understand natural systems well enough to predict how species and populations will respond to a rapidly changing world (i.e., climate change, habitat loss, etc.). A population under any conditions will grow, shrink, or disappear altogether depending on how efficiently individuals consume resources (food), utilize that food metabolically, and eventually reproduce. However, making accurate predictions based on these metabolic processes is complicated by the realities that each species has different resource requirements and that no two individuals within a species are exactly alike. Rather, individuals vary and this variation, both within and across species, is central to many ecological and evolutionary processes. Developing the ability to predict responses of biological systems to a changing world therefore requires a mechanistic understanding of variation. The goal of this project is to improve this mechanistic understanding by examining variation within a metabolic context across a range of species that have a spectrum of commonly-seen resource requirements. Further, the work capitalizes on a unique biological characteristic of this group of species that allows control and manipulation of individual reproduction, facilitating experimental study of the mechanistic links between variation in individual consumption, metabolism, and reproduction. The foundation this research is a combination of field measurements and laboratory experiments using both well-established and newly-developed techniques to quantify these links. The result will be a quantitative framework to predict how individuals will respond reproductively to changes in resource use. Because of the close link between individual reproduction and population dynamics, this research will contribute substantially to predictions in population dynamics under realistic conditions where individuals use more than a single resource, and improve the prediction of responses to current and future ecological changes.

#### **The following publications and data resulted from this project:**

Belgrad, B. and B. Griffen. 2016. Predator-prey interactions mediated by prey personality and predator identity. *Proc. Roy. Soc. B*: In Review. [2016-01-20]

[P. herbstii mortality data](#): Mortality of crabs when exposed to either a single blue crab, toadfish, or no predator for a week

[P. herbstii personality data](#): Refuge use of crabs when exposed to predator odor cues from either blue crabs, toadfish, or control of no cue

[P. herbstii predator behavior data](#): Refuge use and mobility of blue crabs and toadfish while in mesocosms for a week - behavior measured during two days.

Belgrad, B. and B. Griffen. 2016. The influence of dietary shifts on fitness of the blue crab, *Callinectes sapidus*. *PloS One*. DOI: [10.1371/journal.pone.0145481](https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0145481).

[Blue crab activity](#): Activity of crabs fed different diets over a summer

[Blue crab egg size](#): Volume of eggs for crabs fed different diets

[Blue crab hepatopancreas index \(HSI\)](#): Weight of hepatopancreas for crabs fed different diets

[Blue crab hepatopancreas lipid content](#): Hepatopancreas lipid content of crabs fed different diets

[Blue crab reproductive tissue analysis \(GSI\)](#): Gonadosomatic index of blue crabs on various diets

[Blue crab survival](#): Blue crab survival data during the dietary study

Knotts ER, Griffen BD. 2016. Individual movement rates are sufficient to determine and maintain dynamic spatial positioning within *Uca pugnator* herds. *Behavioral Ecology and Sociobiology* 70:639-646

[Uca pugnator: behavior change with carapace marking](#): Search space behavior due to carapace treatment (control, nail polish, and food dye)

[Uca pugnator: field spatial position](#): Assessment of individual's position within a herd at 3 min. intervals; for proportion of time found at edge of herd

[Uca pugnator: herd position proportion](#): Individual's proportion of time spent in an edge/alone position among a herd

[Uca pugnator: search space distribution](#): Search space that crabs traveled; to evaluate the sample's distribution of exploratory behavior

Belgrad, B. and B. Griffen. 2015. Rhizocephalan infection modifies host food consumption by reducing host activity levels. *Journal of Experimental Marine Biology and Ecology*. 466: 70-75.

[E. depressus digestion time](#) : Time taken for food to pass through gut of flat-backed mud crabs infected by a parasite

[E. depressus metabolism](#): Respiration rate of infected/uninfected flat-backed mud crabs

[E. depressus reaction time to prey](#): Time taken for infected/uninfected flat-backed mud crabs to react to the presence of prey

Blakeslee, A.M., C.L. Keogh, A.E. Fowler, B. Griffen. 2015. Assessing the effects of trematode infection on invasive green crabs in eastern North America. *PLOS One* 10(6): e0128674.(pdf)

[Carcinus: hemocyte density](#): Counts of circulating hemocyte density in *Carcinus maenas*

[Carcinus: parasites physiology behavior](#): Behavior and physiology of *Carcinus maenas* infected with trematode parasite

Griffen BD, Norelli AP (2015) Spatially variable habitat quality contributes to within-population variation in reproductive success. *Ecology and Evolution* 5:1474-1483.

[P. herbstii diet: sampling site characteristics \(Eco-Evo 2015\)](#)

[P. herbstii diet: body measurements \(Eco-Evo 2015\)](#)

[P. herbstii diet & reproduction \(Eco-Evo 2015\)](#)

[P. herbstii: collection sites \(Eco-Evol 2015\)](#)

Griffen BD, Riley ME (2015) Potential impacts of invasive crabs on one life history strategy of native rock crabs in the Gulf of Maine. *Biological Invasions* 17:2533-2544.

[Cancer consumption and reproduction \(Bio.Inv. 2015\)](#): Lab experiment linking dietary consumption and reproduction

Griffen BD, Vogel M, Goulding L, Hartman R (2015) Energetic effects of diet choice by invasive Asian shore crabs: implications for persistence when prey are scarce. *Marine Ecology Progress Series* 522:181-192.

[Hemigrapsus diet 1 \(MEPS 2015\)](#)

[Hemigrapsus diet 2 \(MEPS 2015\)](#)

Hogan and Griffen (2014). The Dietary And Reproductive Consequences Of Fishery-Related Claw Removal For The Stone Crab *Menippe* Spp. *Journal of Shellfish Research*, Vol. 33, No. 3, 795-804.

[Stone crab: 052012-DietChoiceExp1](#): Prey choice for 2-clawed and 1-clawed Stone Crabs (*Menippe* spp.)

[Stone crab: 052012-LongTermConsumption](#): Long-term consumption for 2-clawed and 1-clawed Stone Crabs (*Menippe* spp.), summer of 2012

[Stone crab: 062013-DietChoiceExp2](#): Prey choice for 2-clawed and 1-clawed Stone Crabs (*Menippe* spp.)

[Stone crab: 062013-PreySizeSelection](#): Prey Size selection ranking for 2-clawed and 1-clawed Stone Crabs (*Menippe* spp.)

Riley M, Johnston CA, Feller IC, and Griffen B. 2014. Range expansion of *Aratus pisonii* (mangrove tree crab) into novel vegetative habitats. *Southeastern Naturalist* 13(4): 43-38

[A. pisonii: range expansion](#): *Aratus pisonii* survey in native mangrove and novel salt marsh habitats

Riley M, Vogel M, Griffen B. 2014. Fitness-associated consequences of an omnivorous diet for the mangrove tree crab *Aratus pisonii*. *Aquatic Biology* 20:35-43, DOI: 10.3354/ab00543

[A. pisonii: fitness and diet](#): Impact of diet variation on physiological and reproductive condition of *A. pisonii*

Toscano BJ, Newsome B, Griffen BD (2014) Parasite modification of predator functional response. *Oecologia* 175:345-352b

[E. depressus - parasite and feeding \(Oecologia, 2014\)](#): Feeding with and without parasitic barnacle infection  
[E. depressus - parasite and prey handling \(Oecologia, 2014\)](#): Food handling with and without parasitic barnacle infection  
[E. depressus - parasite study - field survey \(Oecologia, 2014\)](#): Parasitised field survey

Toscano BJ, Griffen BD (2014) Trait-mediated functional responses: predator behavioural type mediates prey consumption. *Journal of Animal Ecology* 83:1469-1477  
[P. herbstii - activity and feeding \(JAE, 2014\)](#): Activity level and feeding with and without predator cue

Toscano BJ, Gatto J, Griffen BD (2014) Effects of predation threat on repeatability of individual crab behavior revealed by mark recapture. *Behavioral Ecology and Sociobiology* 68:519-527  
[P. herbstii - recapture behavior \(BESB, 2014\)](#): Mud crabs refuge use and activity level - initial measurements  
[P. herbstii - refuge use \(BESB, 2014\)](#): Effect of predation threat on repeatability of individual crab behavior revealed by mark-recapture

Griffen BD, Altman I, Bess BM, Hurley J, Penfield A (2012) The role of foraging in the success of invasive species. *Biological Invasions*. 14:2545-2558  
[Hemigrapsus seasonal diet \(Bio.Inv. 2012\)](#): Percent herbivory and gut fullness for *Hemigrapsus sanguineus* at different times of year

Griffen BD, Toscano B, Gatto J (2012) The role of intraspecific trait variation in mediating indirect interactions. *Ecology* 93:1935-1943  
[P. herbstii refuge use \(Ecology, 2012\)](#): Proportion of time that *Panopeus herbstii* spent using refuge habitats in a lab experiment  
[P. herbstii: Field personality distribution \(Ecology, 2012\)](#): Field distribution of personality types in the mud crab *Panopeus herbstii* relative to tidal height  
[P. herbstii: Trait mediated indirect effect \(Ecology, 2012\)](#): Influence of refuge use by the mud crab *Panopeus herbstii* on consumption of bivalves

Riley ME, Griffen BD (2017) Habitat-specific differences alter traditional biogeographic patterns of life history in a climate-change induced range expansion. *PLOS One* 12(5):e0176263  
[A. pisonii: egg size](#): Comparing egg size in *Aratus pisonii* populations from mangrove and salt marsh habitats  
[A. pisonii: fecundity](#): Determining fecundity of *Aratus pisonii* populations in mangrove and salt marsh habitats  
[A. pisonii: larval starvation resistance](#): Comparing larval quality in *Aratus pisonii* populations from mangrove and salt marsh habitats  
[A. pisonii: latitudinal body size](#): Survey examining latitudinal body size patterns in *Aratus pisonii*  
[A. pisonii: predation](#): Comparing predation pressure on *Aratus pisonii* in mangrove and salt marsh habitats  
[A. pisonii: reproductive effort](#): Survey comparing *Aratus pisonii* reproductive effort in native and novel habitats  
[A. pisonii: herbivory](#): Relationship between leaf herbivory, tree characteristics, and refuge availability  
[A. pisonii: mangrove tree survey](#): Mangrove tree distribution and characteristics in a dwarf mangrove system

Cannizzo ZJ, Dixon SR & Griffen BD (2018). An anthropogenic habitat within a suboptimal colonized ecosystem provides improved conditions for a range-shifting species. *Ecology and Evolution*, 8(3):1524-1533.  
[A. pisonii: behavior](#): Proportion of time the mangrove tree crab *Aratus pisonii* spent in different behaviors related to diet and energy storage  
[A. pisonii: dock-marsh thermal](#): Thermal readings from under a dock and in a nearby salt marsh  
[A. pisonii: sun-shade](#): Proportion of time that mangrove tree crab *Aratus pisonii* spent in sun and shade in three habitats, 2015-2016.  
[A. pisonii: thermal picture](#): Thermal condition of *A. pisonii* in three habitats: under dock, mangroves, saltmarsh

[ [table of contents](#) | [back to top](#) ]

## Funding

Funding Source	Award
<a href="#">NSF Division of Ocean Sciences (NSF OCE)</a>	<a href="#">OCE-1129166</a>
Slocum-Lunz Foundation	<a href="#">Lerner Grey Memorial Fund of the American Museum of Natural History</a>

[ [table of contents](#) | [back to top](#) ]